

Remarks:

Applicant's undersigned attorney acknowledges with appreciation the Examiner's indication that Claims 1 -- 14 and 23 -- 29 are allowed. The amendments proposed hereinabove are intended to remove, by cancellation of rejected Claims 15 -- 22, the last objection to allowance of the present subject application. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are respectfully solicited. It is noted that, while the Official Action makes mention of Claims 1 -- 29 being under consideration, Claims 11 and 26 were canceled in a supplemental amendment transmitted June 14, 2001.

Respectfully submitted,

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